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Running with the Crosstown Campout

Andrew Chestnut keeps a running diary of the weekend.
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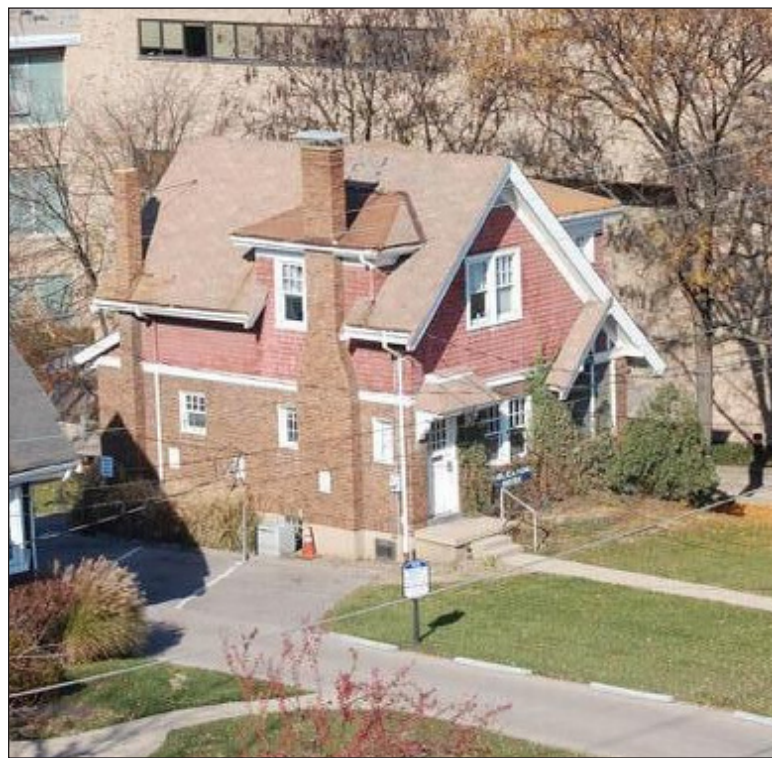
Men lose to Kansas State, women dominate Crosstown

Plus, look inside for a free color "Let's Go X" poster to take to the game.
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ALWAYS ONLINE:
xavier.edu/newswire

Campus houses to be demolished early next year



Newswire photo by Danielle Meiners

The Res Life and Publications houses will be demolished in February 2010.

BY MEGHAN BERNEKING & KATHRYN ROSENBAUM

Demolition of the remaining houses on Ledgewood Avenue will come sooner than expected, resulting in a quick turnaround to find office space to temporarily house offices currently existing in these seven houses.

Mission and Identity, Residence Life, Campus Ministry, Peace and Justice, Bellarmine Parish Center, the offices for field construction and the *Newswire* need to be out of their current locations by Sunday, Jan. 31, so scheduled demolition can begin in February.

Demolition was slated to begin this summer but was moved up in the last 30-45 days, said Bob Scheeran, associate vice president for facility management. The buildings on the east side of Ledgewood Avenue (across the street from Bellarmine Chapel) will be demolished and a new residence hall will be built in its place, pending final approval from the Board of Trustees in February.

On the west side of Ledgewood Avenue, the houses are going to be demolished so piping can be run underneath the ground to reach existing buildings on campus.

It will serve as a dirt-fill area to clear out the residence hall site. It will ultimately serve as a greenspace and an entrance to the Conaton Learning Commons, said Joe Frecker, construction manager.

Xavier decided this area around the Learning Commons should not be under construction next fall when students are using the buildings, said Scheeran.

Since neither the Learning Commons nor the new Williams College of Business buildings will be ready until the summer, these departments, offices and organizations must move into existing space around campus, including Gallagher Student Center and the Village.

"We need to make small sacrifices for long-term gains to make a good environment for students," said Scheeran.

Campus ministry and Peace and Justice are also moving. The 12 staff members, two graduate assistants and seven student workers are beginning their move Tuesday, Dec. 15, so they will start next semester in their new location, Dave Johnson, executive director of the Justice, Faith and Ministry Community Center, said. The office is moving into existing satellite offices and in offices throughout Gallagher.

Johnson said everyone in Gallagher has been accommodating to try to offer space since Johnson found out about three weeks ago they would need to move by the end of January. While he expects some temporary issues to arise, "these are growing pains, not permanent pains," he said.

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Students Against Sexual Assault holds protest

BY AMY WINDHORST
Features Editor

Xavier Students Against Sexual Assault (XSASA) protested the Disciplinary Board's decision to readmit a rape offender to campus after a semester-long probation on the greenspace on Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The focus of the protest was not against this specific offender, said XSASA Co-Founder and Co-President Laura Collier.

"This is a larger issue we're trying to communicate," she said. "The goal is to raise awareness for students on campus that decisions like these are being made."

The protest used neither the offender's nor victim's names, which Collier explained was both due to confidentiality concerns and the fact that specifics weren't important to the issue at hand.

"Xavier is, in a way, saying this behavior is acceptable by letting the offender back on campus," said XSASA Co-President Emily Vassil.

Collier and Vassil said that awareness and student safety were the protest's major concerns.



Newswire file photo
Laura Collier (left) and Emily Vassil.

"We think students and faculty would be outraged if they knew this was going on," Vassil said.

Some faculty members have become involved, including History Department Chair Dr. Christine Anderson, who is also the co-chair of the Xavier Advocate Program.

"In the interest of the safety of the entire community, anyone found responsible for rape by the campus disciplinary process should be permanently expelled from the University," she said.

Anderson, along with fellow co-chair Dr. Carolyn Jenkins, planned to attend the protest.

"I do believe...that students and faculty have a right to free

speech in a university setting, and that they have an obligation to speak out if they believe the safety of the campus is being threatened," said Anderson.

One of the changes Anderson feels needs to be made on campus is ensuring "that the disciplinary procedure is clear, consistent and meets best practice," she said.

Vassil also pointed to the university handbook as a major source of the dilemma.

"In the handbook, there are no clear rules about the punishment of committing rape," said Vassil.

In the protested case, the offender has been readmitted after a semester-long probation and the completion of both a course on alcohol awareness and a course on sexuality.

"In other cases, [the punishment] was being expelled or suspended until the victim had graduated," said Vassil.

She believes that such inconsistencies give rape victims little incentive to go through disciplinary procedures.

Continued on page 5

Car stolen from C-2

BY MONICA LACO
Asst. Campus News Editor

A Xavier student who was robbed at gunpoint on Wednesday, Dec. 2 at approximately 6:40 p.m. in the C-2 lot has been reunited with his stolen vehicle. The perpetrator has not been caught.

On Wednesday, Dec. 2, at approximately 6:40 p.m., the student, who requested his name be withheld for safety concerns, returned to his car in C-2 after being on campus.

He sat down in the driver's seat and threw his backpack into the passenger seat.

As he was going to close the driver's side door, a heavy set male about six feet tall, wearing blue jeans, a grey sweatshirt and a partial ski mask, came around from the back of the car, stuck a gun in the student's face and told him to get out of the car, empty his pockets and lay on the ground.

The suspect proceeded to take the victim's wallet and keys and then got into the student's car, the student said.

As soon as the man started the car, the student rolled as close as

he could to the car parked next to his.

"It was somewhat in vain, as the front driver-side wheel still hit me as he drove away," the student said.

As the perpetrator drove toward Cohen, the student walked to the campus police station, where he filed a report.

On Thursday, Dec. 3 at 9:50 a.m., while in an unmarked police vehicle, Xavier Campus Police Chief Michael Couch spotted the stolen car on Dana Avenue near Trimble Avenue.

After a short chase by both Xavier and Cincinnati police, all occupants of the vehicle—four teenagers—including the driver, bailed and ran.

Over 30 officers, in addition to canine units, failed to locate the suspects, none of whom matched the description of the person who had stolen the car the night before.

The vehicle was recovered by Xavier Police and returned to the student. The only damage had occurred at the end of the pursuit when the car rolled into a fence post.

Fingerprints were lifted from some items left in the car by the perpetrators. The items are currently at Hamilton County lab for analysis.

The student notes that while safety is a concern on all college campuses, he had always felt "very safe" on Xavier's campus, even late at night.

"I do not think anything could have prevented this crime from occurring. Couch and the police did a tremendous job and have done everything and more to help resolve the incident."

Campus Police is responding by increasing their general surveillance of campus but will not specifically be patrolling C-2 more.

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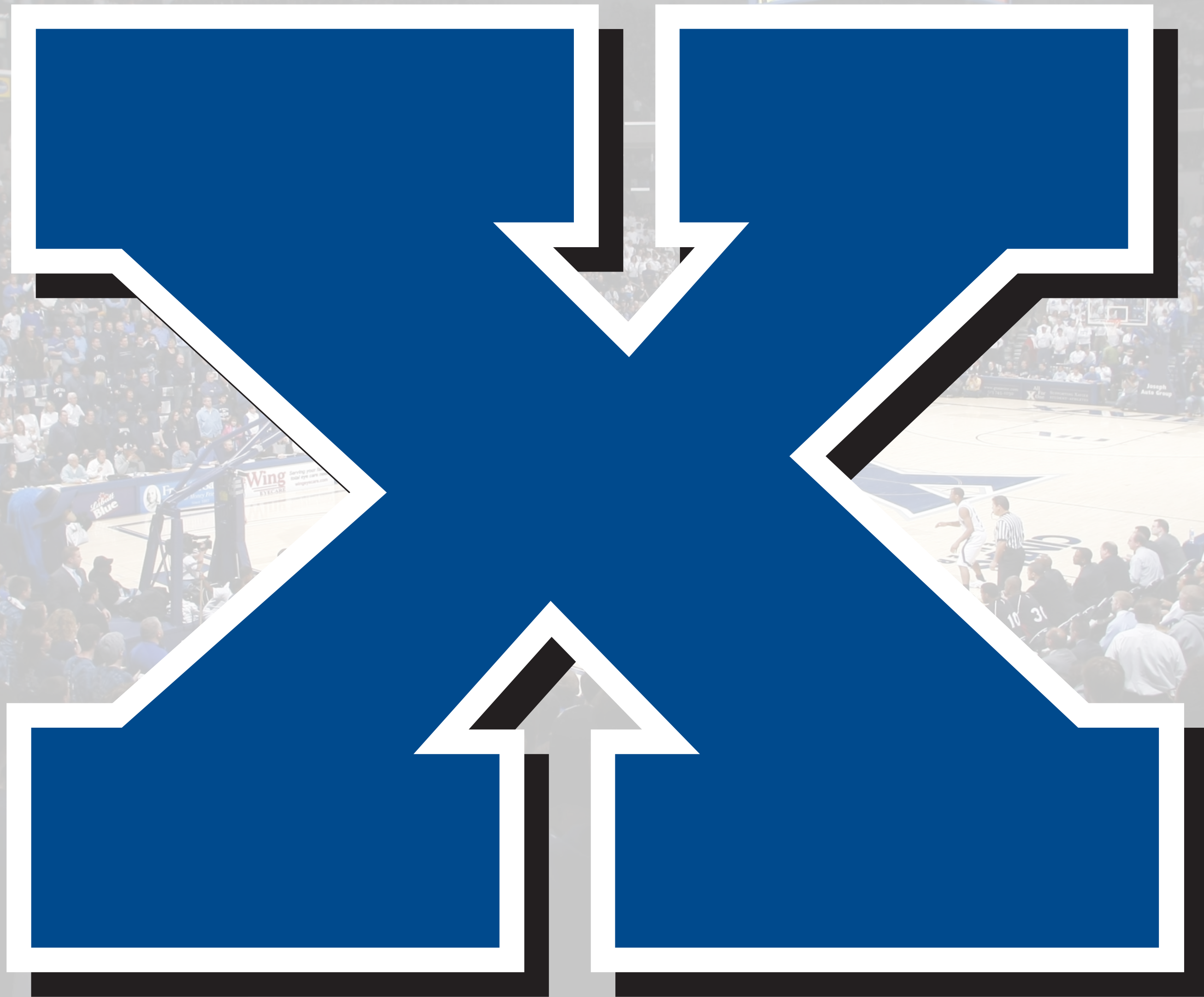
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LET'S GO



XAVIER NEWSWIRE

2009 SKYLINE CHILI CROSSTOWN SHOOTOUT

Administration and student groups consider role of freedom of speech

BY MEGHAN BERNEKING & KATHRYN ROSENBAUM

The freedom of speech issue has grown at Xavier beyond traditional forms of protest, as other outlets become mediums for expressing opinions and criticisms.

Though Xavier's student handbook has few specific policies directly regarding freedom of speech, the issue is intrinsically related to academic freedom.

Generally, students at Xavier are free to express opinions, as long as the words are not demeaning and are in the context of exploring ideas, Dr. Luther Smith, dean of students, said.

However, freedom of speech applies to both students and the university, and the university is able to exercise its rights as well if an incident occurs that could potentially "tarnish the reputation of the university," he added.

The university is committed to academic freedom as outlined in the student handbook and the university's mission statement.

This means that acting as a private citizen a student or faculty or staff member is free to express opinions on anything, but when representing the university, he or she must comply with Catholic

Church teaching, Dr. Roger Fortin, academic vice president and provost, said.

An organization funded by the university cannot, with the label of the university, support something that opposes Church teaching, but at the same time is free to discuss an issue as part of academic freedom.

However, under their individual rights as private citizens, students are free to responsibly protest anything, provided their views are not affiliated with the official view of the university.

Indeed, this is "a good sign the university is alive and well," Fortin said. The same can be said for certain controversial speakers the university may invite.

Regarding online blogging and social-networking, Fortin said the main concern is defamation, which is a serious legal charge.

The student handbook includes a harassment clause protecting groups and individuals from such an occurrence.

"Academic freedom is a broad umbrella, and I want it to be broad," Fortin said.

He added that the institution is well advised not to identify each possible situation. "Controversy is, after all, at the core of free

academic inquiry," he said in an October speech on the subject.

Some campus groups are more conscious of the issue than others. Xavier Alliance, for example, received university funding for a march advocating lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender rights in Washington, D.C., but under the condition to not wear clothing identifying them as Xavier University.

The group was also asked by the university not to use the word "marriage" when referring to homosexual union during a Nov. 16 protest, senior Cameral Tolle, president of Xavier Alliance, said.

Whereas Deb Del Valle, Xavier's director of public relations, originally said that as a Jesuit, Catholic university, Xavier had the responsibility to uphold certain "institutional policies," she later retracted this wording when referring to Church doctrine.

"Being a Catholic University, there are certain Church doctrines which we need to be sensitive to and respect.

"In thinking more about this particular situation and in talking with others at Xavier, I see where I should have been more conscious that this situation, a protest, reflected personal opinion (that be-

ing of the students involved) and not that of the university, and that this even reflected the educational process of discussion," she said.

When funding university clubs and organizations, the Student Government Association does not turn down a proposal based solely on the fact of controversy, senior Kiki Richardson, president of SGA, said.

She did not recall any incidents in which funding for an event was limited due to its controversial nature.

Representatives from both College Democrats and College Republicans said their clubs have to follow a set of guidelines similar to that of the mission statement and the basic rules of the university, but did not think opinions on political issues were censored by the university.

Senior Joe Freytag, president of College Republicans, did say the club was denied university funding to bring Ann Coulter, a controversial right-winged author, to speak in September 2007 "because of the outspokenness of the speaker," he said.

The club did receive a loan from President Fr. Michael Graham, S.J.'s office.

Senior Laura Collier, president

of Xavier Students Against Sexual Assault, cited the responsibility of the student body to bring certain issues to light, regardless of university approval.

"I recognize the power of the student body, and it is my mission that the student body be heard regarding such important issues.

"For example, regarding the upcoming protest [taking place Wednesday, Dec. 9], I feel this is a campus safety issue and that it is the responsibility of the student body to stand up and speak out to ensure that they are heard," she said.

Car stolen from C-2 parking lot

Continued from page 1

"We don't want to concentrate our efforts too much," said Couch, referring to the campus's numerous other areas that need patrolling.

Campus Police encourages students and members of the community to be vigilant. "If you see anything, please call us right away," Couch said.

Xavier, Cincinnati and Norwood Police are still investigating the robbery.

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BRIEFS
Greek life

BY MEGHAN BERNEKING
News Editor

In addition to the two historically African-American Greek organizations featured in last week’s edition of *the Newswire*, Sigma Gamma Rho sorority and Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, Xavier is home to three other Greek organizations. The Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, represented at Xavier by five brothers of the Gamma Alpha Iota chapter, was founded at Howard University in 1914 in order to exemplify the ideals of brotherhood, scholarship and service.

“We take pride in being ‘a part’ of the community not ‘apart’ of the community,” senior Leon Hampton, president of the chapter, said.

The chapter will host its Sigma Waging War Against Cancer (Project SWWAC) at 5 p.m. this Friday, Dec. 11 in Kelley Auditorium. All of the brothers will be shaving their heads as part of the event raising money for The Sister Network, which supports African-American women fighting breast cancer.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., founded in 1908, is the first historically African-American Greek organization created by

women and has been present at Xavier since 1999 when the Rho Psi chapter was chartered.

The 12-member chapter travels to Rockdale Academy weekly to serve as tutors and peer mentors and volunteers monthly at the Over the Rhine Community Housing Center.

Rho Psi will host its Alpha Kappa Alpha week in January, which will include doing service at the Little Sisters of the Poor, a forum on the image of African-American women and the Ivy Prince Scholarship Pageant.

The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was founded in 1913 at Howard University.

Xavier’s chapter, Rho Xi, founded in 1992, was the first sorority established and chartered on Xavier’s campus.

The chapter currently has six members.

The sorority’s mission of public service is based on five values: economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, health, and political awareness and involvement.

The sorority holds bi-weekly study tables, known as “Deltademics,” in addition to a workout program called “Get Fit with Rho Xi,” to encourage healthy lifestyles.

The sorority also awards an annual sholarship to an African-American student based on leadership, academics and character.

Book buying

BY JOHN SCHROECK
Staff Writer

Over the past three decades ,the cost of college textbooks has increased at twice the rate of inflation. Considering the current economic climate, the Xavier Senate hopes to provide direction for students who would like to find the best prices available.

“Let it be clear that this is in no way an attack on eFollet or the Xavier University Bookstore. Many times they provide reasonably-priced and quality books,” said junior Daniel Francis of the Community Affairs Committee.

“However, we realize that students may need to make drastic cutbacks and many of our suggestions present that opportunity.”

For discounted books, Senate suggests sites such as BetterWorldBooks.com (new and used books at or below MSRP, includes free shipping), Half.com, Amazon.com, Ecampus.com and CheapestTextBooks.com.

There are also websites that rent out textbooks. BookSwim.com and Chegg.com are both Netflix-style services that deliver books right to your door.

For students comfortable with reading textbooks online, check out FullBooks.com and ReadPrint.com.

The Xavier Book eXchange Board in the Gallagher Student Center is also a viable solution to expensive textbooks.

Senate further suggests that students make sure that they find

out what books they will need by e-mailing their professors long before classes start so they have time to shop around to find the best prices.

Older editions of books are typically much more inexpensive, so asking professors if the current edition of a certain textbook is needed can go a long way.

Getting a book’s ISBN number, typically found on the back right corner of a book, can also be quite useful in making quick price comparisons.

H1N1 update

BY MIKE GLYNN
Staff Writer

The McGrath Health and Wellness Center has received a limited supply of the H1N1 vaccine and is scheduling appointments.

The priority ages remain those under age 24 and those 25 to 65 with medical conditions that are at high risk for complications.

For those not in the priority group, the recommendation is to seek out one’s own private doctor to receive the vaccine.

The vaccine is unnecessary for students who experienced flu-like symptoms or tested positive for the H1N1 virus earlier this year.

Only one dose of the vaccine is needed.

The H1N1 vaccine does not cover the seasonal flu. Those seeking protection from both flu viruses should schedule separate appointments.

The McGrath Health and Wellness Center is administering

the vaccine for free from now through Dec. 17 at 11:00 a.m.

Students should make an appointment online through a link on the Flu Update Page on the Xavier website.

When arriving for a vaccination, students must present a valid All Card, driver’s license and completed paperwork.

Alleged rape

BY ANDREW CHESTNUT
Managing Editor

An alleged rape was reported Sunday morning by a female student in Kuhlman Hall. Xavier University campus police originally received the report.

The matter is currently under investigation by the Cincinnati Police Special Crimes Unit, said Debora Del Valle, director of the Office of Public Relations.

“Because of federal laws which apply to colleges and universities not to disclose information in order to protect the privacy of students, [the university] cannot release any more information,” Del Valle said.

The student told campus police she was intoxicated with the suspect and blacked out, and when she awoke the suspect was on top of her.

She said she believed they were engaged in sexual conduct.

The CPD Special Crimes Unit was unable to comment further on the allegations and did not say whether the suspect was a student.

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LOOKING FOR THINGS TO DO?
((we have some ideas))

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Come with us to the Cincinnati Zoo, for a festive festival of lights, animals, and friends. Wip out those gloves and caps, and come out December 11th from 6-9pm. It's only five bucks, so come to the SAC office between December 1-9 and look for ticket sales in GSC. See you there!

AIRPORT SHUTTLES

Excited for the holidays, but can't get to the airport? Well lucky for you, we've got your back. It's your last chance to sign up for the Christmas Break Airport Shuttles, so get your name on the list before Dec. 14th. Only \$5 gets you a round trip to Cincinnati or Dayton Airports so sign up in the SGA Office, GSC 210

T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

Top 3 designers will win \$50 gift certificates to Rookwood Commons. Designs should celebrate women at Xavier and will be revealed at the NCAA Women's Tournament in March. Designs are due by January 15th and can be dropped off at Cristin Giacci's mailbox in the SGA office or email a jpg file to WOX@xavier.edu.

SPRING 2010 PREVIEW

Finals are coming, and all of us are ready to wave goodbye to 2009. But what can we look forward to in the new decade? ((here's a sneak preview))

- Boat Dance
- Mr. Muskie
- Ice Skating
- Skiing

CLUB OF THE MONTH



Congratulations **International Student Society!**
Vote on your favorite club by submitting your nomination at the front desk of the GSC

Holiday safety tips

BY MONICA LACO
Asst. Campus News Editor

As off-campus students prepare to leave their houses and apartments and head home for the holiday break, the Norwood Police Department encourages students to pay heed to these holiday safety tips:

1. Make sure locks work on doors and windows.
2. If you receive mail, get it stopped by the post office. Fill out a yellow card at any post office branch or go online to <https://holdmail.usps.com>. Have it held from the day before you leave until the day after you return.
3. Invest in a cheap timer and put it on a light or TV. Set it to

go on and off at different times throughout the day.

“You want to make [your house or apartment] look like it’s being lived in,” said Lt. Tom Williams, community relations officer of the Norwood Police Department.

4. Let your neighbors know that you will be gone, and ask them to keep an eye on your house or apartment.
5. Inform your landlord of when you will be gone so he or she can be aware of any suspicious activity around your property.

6. Keep valuables out of sight. Don’t leave your laptop in plain view on the table. Lock it up inside your house. “If [thieves] see it, they’ll want to take it, and they’ll figure out a way to get to it,” Williams said.

Campus News

Houses on Ledgeswood to come down by Feb.

Continued from page 1

Currently, Newswire’s location is unknown, but the second floor computer lab in Gallagher is an option.

“We have been in communication with administrators making these decisions, trying to come up with ways that will accommodate the needs of the departments that have to move while ensuring that student needs are met,” said senior SGA President Kiki Richardson.

Furthermore, Physical Plant originally proposed Gallagher 330, a meeting room for students, to be used as temporary office space. Dr. Luther Smith, dean of students, suggested they reconsider since it is one of two student meeting rooms in Gallagher. No offices are going to be moved into

Gallagher 330.

The Residence Life office will be relocated to the Village office at the end of January until summer or early fall of 2010.

“We’ll be fine, but it will be more difficult for students to find us,” Lisa Brown, associate director of Residence Life.

Mission and Identity’s temporary location is still under consideration, Joe Shadle, director of the Center for Mission and Identity, said.

Bellarmino Parish Center is going to be moving into Bellarmine Chapel and the field construction offices will move across Dana Avenue, to the former Koi Auto Parts building.

Sarah Wieten, Campus News Editor
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Newswire-News@xavier.edu

XSASA protest

Continued from page 1

“Hopefully, the protest will help bring attention to the disciplinary process as well,” Vassil said.

While XSASA has not yet received a response from the administration, Vassil said that both the club and several faculty members have expressed their concerns to Dean of Students Dr. Luther Smith and Academic Vice President and Provost Dr. Roger Fortin.

“We would love to have a response from Xavier,” Collier said. “However, we aren’t expecting to get one, since we’ve approached the administration many times. We hope that when confronted with a larger group of students at the protest, they will be prompted to take action.”

When asked, Dr. Smith could not comment on the protest due to confidentiality issues surrounding the disciplinary case.

POLICE NOTES

Dec. 1, 8:10 p.m. – A non-student observed urinating in the woods in the South lot was issued a trespass warning.

Dec. 2, 4:14 p.m. – A non-student reported the theft of two rings from a locker in the O’Connor Sports Center.

Dec. 3, 8:33 a.m. – Campus Police investigated a two-car accident on Pacific Avenue near the East entrance of Cintas Center.

Dec. 4, 3:16 a.m. – An officer on patrol reported broken glass in the exterior door to the ground floor of Kuhlman Hall.

Dec. 5, 1:57 a.m. – A student observed urinating in the Sycamore lot was cited for underage consumption of alcohol. Stolen Christmas lights were confiscated.



Dec. 5, 3:04 a.m. – Campus police cited a student for underage consumption of alcohol in front of Cintas Center.

Dec. 6, 9:56 a.m. – A student reported that his or her wallet had been stolen from the front of Cintas Center.

NOTE OF THE WEEK

Dec.3,3:42a.m.–Campus Police and Cincinnati Fire and Rescue responded to a fire alarm in Brockman Hall. Investigation revealed the cause to be a pizza burning in the ground floor oven.

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Demolition marks loss of personality

BY KATHERINE MONASTERIO
Op-Ed Editor

Demolition. We all knew this day would come—we, the residents of the Publications House and staff of *the Newswire*.

We knew what lay in store for this place at the end of the year. We knew that our run-down but much beloved house, come summertime, would be nothing more than a pile of bricks and dusty plaster, quickly cleared and forgotten.

This is why, last week, we were devastated and infuriated to learn that we'd have to say good-bye in January, not June.

We are not pleased.

Many of you have probably been seething over this for months—the Dorothy Day and Campus Ministry houses, for example, knew they'd be coming down in January.

But we, planning on utilizing one of the last houses on campus for another six months, thought we had more time. We figured we'd have the chance to pick a new working space on campus that we would enjoy, and that Xavier still cared about keeping houses on campus, at least for a little while.

But this rush to tear down Residence Life and the Publications House and Dorothy Day and all those others has me asking: Xavier, are you really so eager to destroy such defining bits of your personality?

When the houses along

Ledgewood came down last year, I mourned that I'd never have the chance to live in a house so close to campus—quite a unique opportunity. I hated that the beautiful rows of residences, such a lovely contrast to the concrete monoliths on the rest of campus, were gone.

Not only were the houses on Ledgewood a charming aesthetic contribution to Xavier, but also a point of interest. How many campuses these days have housing—actual *houses*—right on campus? In throwing distance of the student center? In spitting distance of classrooms? Not many.

Those houses were a unique part of Xavier which has been erased, which students as soon as two years from now won't even know existed.

And now the sole survivors (the Publications House, the Dorothy Day House, etc.) are about to follow the Ledgewood houses into needless destruction. The plot of land once graced by the Publications House will feature a fountain. The houses on Herald will be a new residence hall.

In fact, the Publications House's initial, swift demise is to provide a direct route from campus to the new Learning Commons. As if students were unable to simply walk around a few tiny buildings in their path.

Granted, eventually we would need to be torn down to make room for piping that will even-

tually supply the new residence hall.

But before that, another short-term use for this space is that construction crews will have somewhere to pile dirt and debris.

What?

Xavier is tearing down our beloved house, of which every single corner is utilized every week, to make space for a humungous pile of mud. And someday, a silly fountain, which will be just as much of a problem to walk around as, say, the Scales of Justice, will stand on this once hallowed ground.

Why, Xavier?

Gigantic new buildings have their place on this campus. But why does this mean demolishing other pieces of campus history? We're losing bits of Xavier personality through this destruction.

All those who use the Dorothy Day House, Res Life and the handful of houses left on this campus should be devastated to lose their buildings, for reasons beyond that they have no place to work.

The loss of such unique features of campus is becoming depressing. Will they take the Honors Villa next, perhaps in favor of expanding the Manor House?

Whatever is next for the houses left behind, let us hope that we never forget the others, and remember how exceptional this campus once was.

Tips for relaxing over winter break

BY TOMMY KAUFFMANN
Editorial Columnist

Starting in a little over a week, we'll have 23 straight days of no class. So instead of studying for finals, I've started making an itinerary for how to spend my break.

I could tell you what you've all heard before: use your break wisely and productively. There's no point in letting all that time go to waste.

Along those lines, I could work on finding an internship for this summer. Or maybe catch up with family. I could even read a book. However, I have other things that need to be done; more important things. Things like:

1. Going to Butler on Dec. 19. X-treme Fans giving out free tickets to that game is the one good thing they've done to the ticket policy this year.

2. Drinking a keg of hot chocolate. Because, why not?

3. Cozying up with the aforementioned hot chocolate and having a Christmas movie marathon. But only good Christmas movies, like "Elf" or "A Christmas Story" or "Die Hard" (sorry, "Christmas with the Kranks," but you don't quite make the cut).

4. Answering the phone, "Buddy the Elf, what's your favorite color?"

5. Shamelessly watching every college football bowl game. Who needs social interaction when 300-pound linemen

are knocking helmets for the San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl title?

6. Pulling an all-nighter the night after New Year's.

My schedule is chock full of nothing.

The point is, a break is exactly what its name implies: time off. So if you're hungry, break off a piece of that Kit-Kat bar. If you're a thespian, break a leg. On Christmas, remember to break bread. But if you're a college student, do not break your back over busywork.

Enjoy the three-plus weeks where you don't have to worry about class or homework or finals or roommate drama. Do like "Frankie Goes to Hollywood" and just relax.

Think about all the things you won't have to deal with during that time. Backpacks. The caf. Laundry. The caf. Finals. *The caf.*

It might be a bit of a faux pas to say—especially at a university—but time off can be just as important as time spent studying.

I know I'm feeling a little burnt out on school right now, and it's not even finals week yet. A few weeks to be able to recharge the academic batteries is a good thing.

So waste your time away. Put Rumpke to shame, because on Jan. 11, 2010, the spring semester starts.

And you know you won't have time to waste then.



Pierre
Lampshade

"Liberté, égalité, et fraternité. Aussi, La Maison de Publications."



Kathryn Rosenbaum
Editor-in-Chief

"An office. . . in the Publications House."



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"To survive another year."



Matt Ackels
Copy Editor

"A baby brother. . . or at least an end to my mom's menopause."

—STAFF TALK—

with Katherine Monasterio

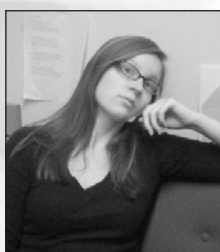
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News Editor

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Campus News Editor

"A win over Butler on Dec. 19, or to take the Publications House home with me."



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"If the Publications House is going to come down, I at least wanna be the one that does it."



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Features Editor

"Creepy uncle repellent, applos and the Publications House."



Katherine Monasterio
Op-Ed Editor

"A biscuit. Also, for the love of God, the Publications House."

Men still searching for stability in December

Young Musketeers stumble in first road test at K-State

BY DOUG TIFFT
Sports Editor

Entering the season with the ninth-youngest roster and a first year head coach, the Xavier men's basketball team knew that there would be rocky nights. Just not this rocky.

Fighting through stagnant, sloppy offense, poor free throw shooting and deficient rebounding the inexperienced Musketeers lost 71-56 in their first true road game of the season at Kansas State.

Xavier was troubled throughout by Kansas State's pressuring man-to-man defense, committing 13 turnovers—10 in the first half. Xavier responded by putting up quick shots, resulting in 29.4 percent shooting on the night.

The lone bright spot for the Xavier offense was sophomore Brad Redford, who was 4-5 from three point range in leading the team with 16 points.

Redford's opportunities came predominantly off of kick-outs when the Wildcats collapsed on the Xavier interior players, a strategy that helped limit senior Jason Love to five points and junior Jamel McLean to four points.

The frontcourt's shortcomings also hurt Xavier on the glass, where Kansas State outrebounded the Musketeers 39-30—including 26-7 in the first half.



Newswire photo by Danielle Meiners

Junior Dante Jackson scored nine points against Kent State, but was held scoreless with two rebounds in the loss to Kansas State.

Despite having fewer chances on the offensive end, the Musketeers were able to remain within striking distance thanks to tough ball pressure on Kansas State guards Jacob Pollen and Denis Clemente, as well as a 3-2 zone that limited the Wildcat interior scoring chances.

Still, Xavier could not capitalize on the chances, shooting only 21-33 from the free throw line.

The youthful Musketeers will try to gather themselves before stepping onto the biggest stage of the regular season, the Crosstown Shootout, against Cincinnati on Sunday, Dec. 13.

Crawford ignites Xavier in come-from-behind victory over Kent State

BY DOUG TIFFT
Sports Editor

The Xavier Musketeers needed a wake-up call. Jordan Crawford delivered.

With the Musketeers trailing by nine points with 9:24 to play in the first half, Crawford grabbed a rebound in traffic, made the put-back and raced down the court into a huddle yelling "Let's Go!" and getting in his teammates' faces.

The fire was just what the doctor ordered to jolt Xavier out of an early stupor that saw them trail by as many as 12 points, as Crawford's 21 points on 8-13 shooting led Xavier to a 77-61 win over Kent State at Cintas Center Friday night.

"Coach is always telling us, 'No one should be quiet—everyone has to be loud,'" Crawford said. "So I was just trying to get our guys going."

The Musketeers dug themselves into an early hole by committing eight of their 10 first half turnovers against Kent State's 2-3 zone, and allowing the Golden Flashes to grab eight of their 13 offensive rebounds before halftime. The zone also negated Xavier's interior play, as Jason Love, Jamel McLean, Kenny Frease and Andrew Taylor combined for five points in the first half.

"We were kind of shocked for a minute there. Coach focused so much on sharing the ball this week in practice that it made us really tentative," Love said. "After a while we settled in though, and got our defense set."

It was that defensive pressure that allowed the Musketeers to go on a 16-3 run to end the first half, with the intensity of the game evident from Xavier head coach Chris Mack's repeated fist pumps on the sidelines.

Xavier held Kent State to 36.9 percent shooting, causing 15 turnovers that led to 26 Musketeer points.

"We were a team that defended well tonight, and that is really the team that we are and should be," Mack said.

With the pace picking up as a result of the defensive pressure, the Musketeers' transition offense geared up. Crawford produced three assists—each causing the NBA scouts seated courtside to excitedly scribble in their notebooks—and point guard Terrell Holloway contributed five assists and 13 points on only four shots.

"Terrell was a calming influence on our team," Mack said. "I thought offensively he let the game come to him and ran our offense...against the changing defenses."

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CROSSTOWN PREVIEW

Scouting the Cincinnati Bearcats

In his fourth year after taking over for the jettisoned Bob Huggins, Cincinnati head coach Mick Cronin has his best squad—one that may just be good enough for his first NCAA appearance.

The Bearcats are led by senior shooting guard Deonta Vaughn. The 6'1" sharpshooter is only hitting at a 33.3 percent clip from three point range this season, but often rescues the Bearcats with a timely three point shot when they stagnate in the halfcourt.

A big reason for Cronin's optimism in 2009-10 stems from the interior, where 6'9" sophomore Yancy Gates is averaging 12.2 points and 8.3 rebounds per game this season. Gates and Xavier center Kenny Frease have a long-standing rivalry, dating back to when they were the top two prospects in Ohio in the high school class

of 2008.

Joining Gates in the frontcourt is senior Rashad Bishop, a 6'6" junior with three point range and a knack for the offensive glass (6.0 rebounds per game).

UC's final two starters, a pair of freshman, created the most buzz prior to the season in Clifton. Cashmere Wright is the first true point guard the Cronin has had in his tenure, and 6'6" Lance Stephenson—the all-time leading scorer in New York City high school basketball history—was rated the No. 11 prospect in the country by Rivals.com.

The Bearcat bench features three point shooting guards Dion Dixon and Larry Davis, as well as 6'8" center Steve Toyloy in the post. The depth allows Cronin to cycle bodies, helping UC limit opponents to 37.3 percent shooting on the season.

Notable moments in Crosstown history

2008: Xavier beat UC 64-59 to move the all-time standings to 47-29 in favor of UC. Derrick Brown scored 17 points before being ejected for taunting—the second consecutive year that the game featured a technical foul.

1999: Xavier knocks off Kenyon Martin and the No. 1 Bearcats 66-64 behind a heroic driving bank shot and pair

of free throws from Kevin Frey.

1996: Lenny Brown's last-second jump shot gives Xavier a 71-69 win at No. 4 Cincinnati, who were led by All-American Danny Fortson.

1928: St. Xavier College—an all boys school at the time—outlasts the University of Cincinnati 29-25 in their newly-built \$350,000 Schmidt Fieldhouse.

Prediction: Xavier 68, UC 64

Xavier has won nine of the last 13 Shootouts, including the previous three at Cintas Center. In order to keep the trend going they will have to focus on keeping Vaughn, Wright and Stevenson from penetrating into the lane off of the dribble.

Xavier does have more depth inside, however, and will likely be able to outrebound UC to get a few extra critical possessions. It's a close game that will test Xavier's shaky free throw shooting ability, but I see it as **Xavier 68, UC 64.**

Crosstown blowout: Muskies rip Bearcats

By JOCELYN TAYLOR
Staff Writer

The slump is over. After consecutive losses in the Crosstown Shootout to the University of Cincinnati, the Xavier women’s basketball team beat the Bearcats 69-38 on Sunday, Dec. 6, to begin the season 7-0 for the first time in school history.

The Musketeers had lost to the Bearcats the previous two years, but avenged themselves at home.

Redshirt-junior Amber Harris had a dominating game, leading all scorers with 17 points and had three blocks, a steal and eight rebounds.

Sophomore Tyeasha Moss and freshman Katie Rutan also had 14 and 13 points respectively. Junior Special Jennings dished out six assists.

“They are down the street from us, so we have to see them every day if we head over there or go to see friends,” said Moss, the seventh best three point shooter in the nation at 55.6 percent. “We want to bring the win back to Xavier. It’s definitely a rivalry game. We’ve been hungrier for this game than any other game we’ve won [this season].”

The Bearcats pounced on the Muskies during the opening minutes of the half, opening a 5-0 lead before Jennings made the first Musketeer basket.

Xavier did not make a run against UC until seniors Dee Dee Jernigan and Alesia Barringer came into the game.

Jernigan made a layup after a turnover by UC, and senior April Phillips stole the ball leading to a



Sophomore Tyeasha Moss scored 14 points in the win over Cincinnati. Moss is now seventh in the country in three-point shooting at 55.6 percent.

fast break lay-in by Barringer to give the Musketeers a 13-10 lead.

The Musketeers never looked back and ended the half with a 39-18 lead over the Bearcats.

Jernigan ended the game with five steals.

Offensively, Xavier dominated the interior, outscoring the Bearcats 34-16 in the paint.

Xavier went 6-14 from behind the three-point line and forced 26 turnovers.

The defensive pressure was just as powerful in this game as well, as

the Musketeers stifled the Bearcats and held them to a season low 38 points on 27.5 percent shooting.

Three-headed monster

Xavier entered the season with high expectations (No. 9 pre-season ranking) in large part because of their frontcourt triumvirate of Amber Harris, Ta’Shia Phillips and April Phillips. Here is a look at how they have fared so far this season:

Name	Pts.	Rebs.	Assts.	Blocks	Steals	FG%
A. Harris	14.7	8.6	2.1	2.0	1.9	51.8
T. Phillips	12.1	9.3	1.0	2.3	0.6	64.3
A. Phillips	10.6	7.6	1.4	0.3	1.3	45.6

Sherwood to coach women’s soccer



Photo courtesy of iuhosiers.com
Woody Sherwood.

The search for a new women’s head soccer coach ended on Tuesday, Dec. 8, with the announcement of the hiring of Woody Sherwood.

Sherwood has sixteen years of collegiate coaching experience, graduated from Xavier in 1991 and spent three years as a women’s assistant coach in 1994-97.

Sherwood comes from Indiana University, where he spent three years, two as an assistant coach and one as an assistant head coach.

Sherwood also has head coaching experience at Butler University and Towson University.

The Hoosiers offense thrived under Sherwood. In the past three seasons, Indiana scored 85 goals. In comparison, the Muskies scored 45.

At Butler, where he spent seven seasons, Sherwood went 63-64-10 and was named the Horizon League coach of the year in 2002.

“To be able to return to such a special place is a once in a lifetime chance. Xavier has a rich tradition of athletics and I look forward to the opportunity to return the women’s soccer program back to a nationally competitive program,” Sherwood said.

-Scott Mueller, Asst. Sports Editor

The softer side of dominance: Ta’Shia Phillips

By JOCELYN TAYLOR
Staff Writer

When you think of Xavier women’s basketball player Ta’Shia Phillips, the first word that comes to mind is dominance.

Phillips is an aggressive rebounder and scorer who, along with April Phillips and Amber Harris, make up a powerful frontcourt that any coach would love.

What most people do not know is that Ta’Shia has a gentler side.

After beating Mississippi Valley State 92-52, she treated herself to a chocolate chip cookie that looked more like a dime in her massive hand and shared a bit of her personal life.

The most important thing in Phillips’ life is family.

“My mother raised us as family-oriented kids, so the fact that [my family is at] every game gives me something to look forward to,” Phillips said. “Even at some of the away games, I know they’re going to be there.”

Her decision to come to Xavier from Indianapolis’ Brebeuf Jesuit High School was a family decision as well.

“My dad was excited about the whole process, but my mother was very concerned about the school,” Phillips said. “She keeps me grounded. My brother didn’t care, just as long as I was close [to



Photo courtesy of GoXavier.com
Xavier junior center Ta’Shia Phillips has dominated opponents on the court, piling up 993 career points. But aspirations to attend law school or open her own clothing store occupy her off the hardwood.

home].”

Phillips’ younger brother, JaMarious, plays a special role in her life as well.

“At first we had a normal brother and sister relationship,” Phillips said. “But now we have a lot to talk about and catch up on.

We text each other during the day. When he’s with mom and I’m on the phone talking to mom, he’s like ‘No! I’m talking to mom.’ It’s regular sister and brother stuff.”

This past summer, Phillips stepped away from her family, when she was invited to attend the

World University Games in Serbia with the USA basketball team.

“It was the most interesting experience of my life,” Phillips said. “Two full weeks no TV, no radio, no phone, and you’re stuck with the same 15 people everyday, but other than that it was pretty fun.”

“[The team officials] took us out to eat, we won a gold medal. Not too many people can say they’ve done that. It was fun,” Phillips said.

The casual uniforms that the players were instructed to wear in Europe did not match up to Phillips’ hopes, but it did offer her a chance to show her lighter side.

“They wanted something simple, just some shorts and a polo,” Phillips said. “But they did not come out like they wanted them to. So we just wore them anyway.”

With such a packed resume already, Phillips appears to have a bright future.

“I’m just thinking about going with the flow,” Phillips said. “I would really like to go to law school. If I get the opportunity to keep playing basketball I’ll take it because not too many people get that opportunity. But whatever happens, happens.”

At 6’6” and light on her feet, the possibility of becoming Xavier’s second WNBA player after Nicole Levandusky played 13

games for the Los Angeles Sparks in 2001 seems to be a reachable goal for Phillips, something that is a distant dream, however.

“I don’t really have a personal choice for which team I play for,” Phillips said. “As long as I am in a great place, have a great team, and my family’s there, which I know they will be, I’ll be OK.”

With all of her physical prowess, not many would ever guess that Phillips has an eye on the fashion scene as well. Yet Phillips harbors dreams of one day opening her own clothing store.

“It’s hard being tall because clothes for us are very expensive,” Phillips said. “My pants by themselves are \$100 a piece. Not to mention that my shoes are about \$100 a piece. That’s \$200 on two articles of clothes and I haven’t even put together a full outfit.

“So I would like to make clothes that are reasonable, still look nice, will hold up and will fit anybody,” Phillips said. “Casual, dress, whatever you can think of. My mom’s 5’5”, so I can’t leave out the little people. If I did she’d get me. She can do hair in the back (Phillips’ mom is a hair stylist).”

Phillips’ brother also is in the design business as an art student, so look for the catalog from Phillips & Phillips on your doorstep soon.

Singers disco show

BY CATHERINE STAHL
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Xavier University Singers' fall show, "21st Century Disco," played to three enthusiastic audiences this past weekend in the Gallagher Student Center Theater.

The show, which combined high-energy dancing and singing with a live band, was well put together and had the best production quality of any Singers show I have seen in my three years at Xavier.

Though a few of the group numbers had vocal harmonies that seemed a little off, the singing was good for the most part, and the dancing was definitely more challenging than that in past Singers shows.

I was particularly impressed in by the multiple dance lifts done in the show, and by senior Katie Huey, who stood out as an excellent dancer and performer.

The show really gave off a disco feel and was well executed thanks to the talent of those on-stage.

I was a little worried about how well the group would pull off such well-known music, but freshman Connor Gavin's falsetto voice was a good fit for the Bee Gees' classics. Senior Michelle Anguiano and junior Emily Lewis also managed to pull off solos in "I'm Every Woman."

Though a few vocal soloists left something to be desired, the majority of the soloists featured in the show were good, and several gave stand out performances.

Anguiano impressed me with her ability to rap as well as sing alongside junior Brandon Brown (also a good rapper) in Michael Jackson's "Get on the Floor," as well as in the number "Stayin' Alive" in which Anguiano rapped to a modern mix made from the Bee Gees' classic.

Sophomore Justin Hanks and junior Ashley Marine also gave excellent solos in the show,



Photo courtesy of Alex Lush

Singers Ricky Kubrack and Stephanie Holdmeyer.

though I would have liked to hear more from the latter soloist whose voice was only showcased for a few measures.

I must also note the excellent tumbling done by Marine, which added to the show's overall effect.

My favorite part of the show was probably the band of local musicians. In particular, I liked the strings, which were added for the number "A Fifth of Beethoven Night Fever."

In this song, a few of the Singers, along with the keytar player, Brian Batchelor-Glader, roller-skated around the stage.

The show not only included live musicians to back up the Singers but also for the first time included an opening act.

Acoustic fingerstyle guitarist, 16-year-old Benn Lapps was a phenomenal opening act. He played the guitar both traditionally and using the instrument as a sort of drum.

His performance made me want to give a standing ovation before the show even started and definitely added to the concert feel of the show.

Overall the show was well put-together from the dancing down to the costumes and was worth seeing.

Newsire Rating:



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Off-campus study

Tired of going to Gallagher to study, running into every person you know and wasting precious study time talking? *The Newsire* sent several writers around the city to get details on off-campus study locations.

We have done the work for you, so now you'll know where these places are, if the lighting is good or bad, or if you can actually find somewhere to sit and study (unlike Gallagher these days).

Lookout Joe

Nested in the heart of Mount Lookout Square, Lookout Joe provides a cozy environment with a Bohemian feel.

This coffee shop offers free wireless internet, as well as two power strips for charging laptops.

The relaxed atmosphere is ideal for easing the anxiety of finals week, but only for those who don't mind slightly close quarters.

While Lookout Joe does offer a soothing environment for studying, as well as an exquisite chicken salad sandwich, the only seating



Newsire photo by Danielle Meiners

Lookout Joe provides a cozy environment with a Bohemian feel.

available is six small tables and a large couch. However, for students who are not as stingy with their personal space, the coffee shop is open until 10 p.m. through the week, 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 9 p.m. on Sunday.

-Rachel Gabbard

Awakenings

For students who enjoy studying in a sophisticated atmosphere, Awakenings in Hyde Park is the classiest coffee shop near campus.

Open until 10 p.m. during the



Newsire photo by Danielle Meiners

There are several Starbucks locations near campus.

week, midnight on Friday and Saturday and 11 p.m. on Sunday, this location offers free wireless internet and a spacious setting for students.

Awakenings is a popular site for studying during the week but is not recommended during the weekend—dim lights and live music do not create the most conducive environment for studying.

During the week, however, Awakenings provides plenty of tables for students to spread out, as well as plenty of outlets for laptops.

-Rachel Gabbard

Starbucks (Hyde Park Plaza)

The Starbucks located in Hyde Park Plaza offers a quiet place to study as well as good coffee and tasty desserts.

Ten small tables (one handicap accessible) are available for students to study at along with four armchairs.

The lighting is somewhat dim but is fine as long as it's light outside. Starbucks plays soothing music quietly as background noise.

Starbucks has about three outlets for those who wished to plug in laptops, but beware wireless is not free. Wireless is only available for those customers who wish to purchase gift cards and use a code on the back of the card.

The hours are 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. Monday - Thursday, 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday, 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sunday.

There are several Starbucks lo-

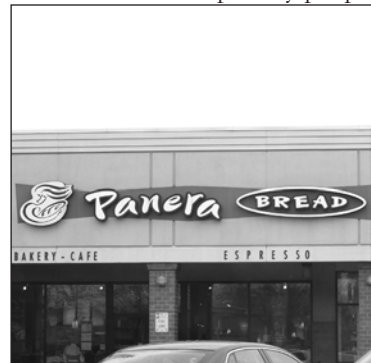
-Des Dale

Panera Bread (Clifton)

The Panera Bread located on Calhoun in Clifton offers a study setting that encourages production and potentially alleviates hunger.

It is convenient to be able to walk a few feet and grab lunch while working on a paper. The restaurant seats a lot of people.

There were around 30 tables available (though around a third of them were occupied by people



Newsire photo by Danielle Meiners

There are multiple Panera Bread locations near campus. The Hyde Park Plaza Panera bread is pictured above.

eating), a few love seats and around 15 outlets. The bright lighting helps studiers to stay awake and be productive, but it may be too intense to the eye for some.

Soothing instrumental music plays at a low volume in the background, though studiers may be distracted by the constant chatter of the people dining.

The hours are 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. from Monday to Saturday and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday. There is also a Panera Bread located in the Hyde Park Plaza.

Toolbox takes the stage

BY CATHERINE STAHL
Arts & Entertainment Editor

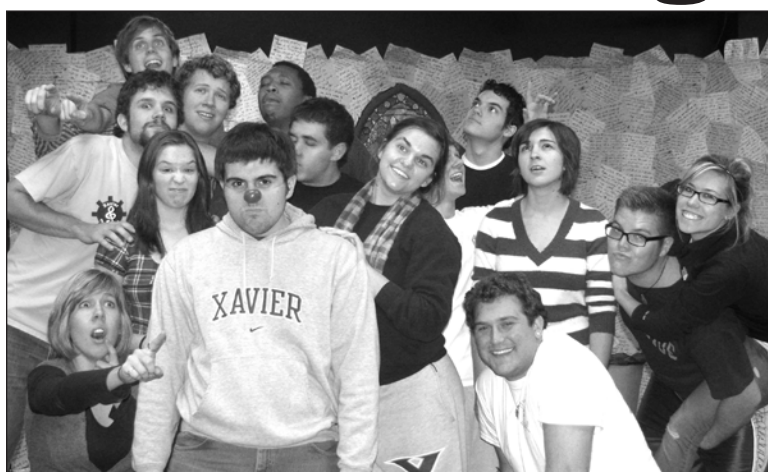
This Thursday and Friday at 9 p.m. the Xavier Players will put on Toolbox, an original sketch comedy and improv show, in the Gallagher Student Center Studio Theater.

This year's cast, made up of 12 actors, has a lot of natural talent, said director of Toolbox, senior Stewart McNiell.

"For many of these people, it's their first time performing improv, or even performing on stage," McNiell said, "It's not just another performance, it's also a showcase."

Toolbox producer, sophomore Nate Fischer, said the show has more sketches than previous Toolbox shows.

Marshmallow madness is one favorite sketch the show will bring



Newsire photo by Catherine Stahl

The cast and crew of Toolbox take a break from rehearsal to pose for a picture.

back this year. In this game, the object is for the actors to not be funny, because every time the audiences laughs, they have to put another marshmallow in their mouth and continue the scene.

The show also includes several

sketches written by different cast members.

"As much as I'm a director, this is their show, so I try to give the cast a lot of freedom," McNiell said.

Toolbox tickets are \$3.

Andrew Chestnut's

Crosstown Campout Diary

Photos by Danielle Meiners

nearly as cold as I thought it would be when I arrived. My relative comfort up to this point is either a result of the 19 articles of clothing I'm wearing or the shots I took at Ryan's before coming out here.

Sat. 1:24 a.m.

After checking out the rest of Tent City, the unequivocal winner for Coolest Tent at the Campout is Tent 54. It's huge. Those guys look like they borrowed a circus tent.

Their place has several couches, rugs, a kitchenette, central heating and its own post office box (I'm guessing). Kudos to them. Let's call it "Club 54" from here on out.

Sat. 1:54 a.m.

It didn't take us long to break out the best of our many camping traditions... Tucker Max's d-bag manifesto, "I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell." We've been reading from this book since we started camping out for tickets when we were freshmen. Between Tucker Max and about 20 dead baby jokes, we are officially the worst people here. Sorry to the nearby tents if you are easily offended.

Sat. 2 a.m.

Here are our other camping traditions: playing euchre, wrestling, eating Cape Cod potato chips, drinking Pepsi, fighting over sleeping bags, complaining, attempting to rationalize spooning and not growing up.

Sat. 2:01 a.m.

Oh yeah, here's one more tradition: unwittingly posing for embarrassing pictures with your mouth half full of pizza that will be on the cover of the event Xavier calendar TWO YEARS LATER. My parents thank you, Xavier Marketing, and they want to know if you can send them an extra 200 copies to send to everyone they've ever met.

Sat. 2:10 a.m.

Time for euchre. We sure loved opening up the deck and seeing Sean Miller as the King of Diamonds. Let's reprint these and make him and Thad Matta the jokers.

Sat. 6:15 a.m.

Why am I awake right now? Because someone just screamed "Wake up!" really loudly, and then someone else right next to us screamed, "Shut up, we're

trying to sleep!" Thanks for that; being awake makes us realize how cold we are.

Sat. 11:30 a.m.

Breakfast today, since I don't have a meal plan, consists of left over potato chips and free chocolate milk. Whoever got us this chocolate milk is my hero. I'm pretty sure it's the only thing I will consume this weekend with any nutritional value whatsoever.

Sat. 2:09 p.m.

Listen, Chris Mack, all I'm saying is Sean Miller brought us pizza...

Sat. 2:33 p.m.

Two years ago, the word of the weekend was "p'wned." This year, it's a race between "cha" and "curb-stomped."

Sat. 10:30 p.m.

Take it from me: you have not lived until you have seen your boss in polar bear-print onesie pajamas.

Sun. 2:12 a.m.

We invited the guys from Tent 80 to come hang out with us for a while. Making new friends is a totally underrated aspect of camping out. They were four freshmen, and they all seemed surprised that seniors were generous enough to talk to them, which isn't unusual. I've heard a lot of freshmen talk as if they expected seniors to automatically throw them in a trashcan or pour beer on them. I'm not sure if people's expectations about college are skewed, or if we're just unusually nice at Xavier.

Sun. 8:30 a.m.

Wake up. Make tent go down. Still tired. Now go sleep.

Sun. 2 p.m.

We're all at the women's game now. It's good everyone got a nap, or the student section would be deadlier than Kenny Frease's NBA hopes after the Kent State game.

Sun. 2:39 p.m.

Me, upon seeing the Skyline coney dog mascot: "If I owned that costume, my Halloween needs would be solved for the next 20 years."

Sun. 3:02 p.m.

My tent-mates and I agree that Katie Rutan and Brad Redford should get married and have a child, and raise it to be the greatest three-point shooter in the history of basketball. Seriously, it would be like a mix between Reggie Miller and Jesus. And he/she would definitely play for Xavier, right? Please let this happen.

Sun. 3:12 p.m.

Amber Harris looked like she was about to catch an in-bounds pass and alley-oop dunk it, which probably would have put me into cardiac arrest after all the junk food I've consumed in the last 48 hours. Maybe it's good she didn't.

Sun. 3:45 p.m.

After the game, we're the first tent to get tickets. The auxiliary gym feels like the V.I.P. room. We get to the desk, and they don't have tickets for Section 116, row A. It is determined that someone "forgot to print the front row tickets." How could you possibly forget to print the front row tickets? There are so many screw-ups in this ticket policy that I'm starting to wonder if it was planned by former GM execs.

Sun. 3:51 p.m.

Finally we have our tickets, and I can't believe the campout is over already. That's probably a good thing; we didn't need anyone dying of hypothermia. Originally I wrote something really sappy and borderline effeminate for my last entry, which showed how much my brain turned into a mushy goop over the last two days. That's why God invented editing.

If you're going to the game, I'll see you there. Be sure to bring the back side of this page to the game; it's a handy "Let's Go X" poster.

LET'S GO
X

Tent #1 gets its Crosstown tickets

Fri. 11:12 p.m.

Greetings! And welcome to the 2009 Crosstown Campout, which, I'm guessing due to the temperature, is being held somewhere near the South Pole. Of Pluto. Regardless, I'm pumped to be here for my second—and final—time. The best part of the campout is my chance to give into the temptation to completely rip off Bill Simmons' running-diary writing style, which is every writer's secret dream. Is this 2009's most underrated writing style? I say yes.

Anyway, we have the tent up and running with all the essentials: sleeping bags, Cape Cod potato chips, plenty of Pepsi, an entire Goodwill's-worth of clothing between the six of us, the Tucker Max book and Xavier basketball themed playing cards. Oh yeah, and my tent-mates.

Sat. 12:20 a.m.

In case you were wondering, we are in the tent with a gigantic "#1" poster, because the piece of paper we got from X-treme Fans wasn't nearly big enough to express our elation for getting the top tent spot. My tent is grateful for the spot, but we are still upset that so many of our upperclassmen friends can't go. I would gladly sit in the top row if it meant all seniors could go to the game. Regardless, we promise to use our spot to be as boisterous and obnoxious at the game as possible (even if they threaten to throw us out for saying "suck," which, by the way, is a rule even more asinine than the campout system this year).

Sat. 12:30 a.m.

So far, life in Tent City hasn't been

Classifieds

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